

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201692
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, US, HU, GW

SUBJECT; US ASSEMBLY AND TEST EQUIPMENT FOR SEMICONDUCTORS
TO HUNGARY

REF: COCOM DOC. (78)594

THE GERMAN DEL IN REGARD TO THE FAIRCHILD/TUNGSRAM-
HUNGARIAN TRANSACTION HAS ASKED "HOW CAN THE US
AUTHORITIES BE ASSURED THAT TESTING EQUIPMENT CANNOT
BE USED TO TEST MILITARY-USE IC'S IN CERAMIC PACKAGES
WHICH HAVE IDENTICAL CONNECTION DEVICES AND IDENTICAL
SHAPED CASING?

THE GERMAN QUESTION ADDRESSES THE SOURCE OF OUR
CONFIDENCE THAT THE TESTERS WILL NOT BE DIVERTED. THE
US IS CONFIDENT THAT DIVERSION WILL NOT OCCUR BECAUSE
THE FAIRCHILD TRANSACTION, A LARGE SCALE PROJECT
INVOLVING ASSEMBLY AND PACKAGING OF US NON-MILITARY
SEMICONDUCTOR CHIP, IS A LARGE PRODUCTION UNDERTAKING
WITH FAIRCHILD TECHNICAL OVERSIGHT. THE TARGETED
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PAGE 02 STATE 201692

TUNGSTRAM PRODUCTION OUTPUT REQUIRES FULL EMPLOYMENT
OF THE TEST EQUIPMENT WITH US TECHNICAL SUPPORT ON-SITE.
THESE ENGINEERING PEOPLE WOULD OBSERVE INCIDENTS OF
DIVERSION REPORTING SUCH ACTIVITIES AS THEY OCCUR.
CERTAINLY TUNGSTRAM DOES NOT WISH TO JEOPARDIZE ITS

FAVORABLE US RELATIONS.

MORE IMPORTANT IS THE FACT THAT THE SUBJECT TEST EQUIPMENT IS G0/NO BENCH TOP TYPE INSTRUMENTATION BEST SUITED FOR INCOMING INSPECTION OF DIGITAL CHIPS, BUT NOT SUITABLE FOR THE DIAGNOSTIC TESTING OF HIGH RELIABILITY MILITARY CIRCUITS. IN THIS REGARD THE US IN THEIR TABLED 1355 PROPOSAL RECOMMENDS DECONTROL OF THESE TYPES OF BENCH TOP DIGITAL TEST INSTRUMENTS BECAUSE OF THEIR LOW STRATEGIC VALUE IN MILITARY USAGE.

IN SUMMARY, THE US SUPPORTS APPROVAL OF THE SUBJECT TRANSACTION BECAUSE OF THE PROVEN CREDENTIALS OF THE TUNGSTRAM PROJECT, THE ON-SITE PRESENCE OF US TECHNICIANS, AND THE LOW TEST CAPABILITY OF THE APPARATUS. ALL OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS LEAD TO THE US CONCLUSION THAT THE RISK OF DIVERSION IS MINIMAL. VANCE

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